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Subject: [workforceupdate] NGA Center Workforce Update for July 27, 2009



Workforce Update – July 27, 2009*

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Update and Announcements

ETA Announces \$220 Million to Prepare Workers for Health Care Careers

The Employment and Training Administration has released a solicitation for grant applications for workforce training projects in the health care sector and other high growth and emerging industries.

The \$220 million will fund 45-65 grants to public or private nonprofit entities in amounts of \$2 to \$5 million each. Approximately \$125 million will be designated for projects in the health care sector. The remaining balance will be reserved for projects in other high growth and emerging industries.

Applicants must be legal entities and may include local Workforce Investment Boards and their One Stop Systems, Tribal organizations, education and training providers, labor organizations, health care providers, and faith-based and community organizations.

For a copy of the SGA, go to:

http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm

ETA Publishes Amendments for “Pathways out of Poverty” and “State Labor Market Information” SGAs

The Employment and Training Administration has published in the Federal Register amendments for the ["Pathways Out of Poverty" and "State Labor Market Information" grant announcements](#) originally made on June 24, 2009.

- [Pathways Out of Poverty](#) (amendments)
- [State Labor Market Information](#) (amendments)

Summer Youth Report

The Employment and Training Administration has published a weekly Summer Youth Report which highlights various Summer Youth Employment Activities across the country. The fourth weekly report (July 20) provides snapshots of summer youth employment programs in the following areas: Greenville, Mississippi; Russell Springs, Kentucky; Upper Marlboro, Maryland; Madison, Wisconsin; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Bismarck, North Dakota; Rockville, Maryland; Salem, Oregon; and Dunkirk, New York.

For a copy of the report, go to: <http://www.subnet.nga.org/downloads/SYEPReport072009.pdf>

National Current Developments

House FY 2010 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Bill

As reported earlier this week, on July 17, the House Appropriations Committee completed its mark-up of its FY 2010 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill. The bill includes language that directs the Secretary of Labor to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and

the Senate a plan for the transfer of the administration of the Job Corps program from the Office of the Secretary to the Employment and Training Administration.

Below is a comparison chart that provides funding levels for workforce-related programs. The chart does not include Recovery Act funds.

<u>Program/Initiative</u>	<u>FY 2009 Final</u>	<u>FY 2010 House Approp.</u>
WIA Adult Training	\$861,540,000	\$861,540,000
WIA Youth Training	\$924,069,000	\$924,069,000
WIA Dislocated Worker ¹	\$1,183,840,000	\$1,183,840,000
WIA DW/National Reserve ²	\$215,051,000	\$158,051,000
Trade Adjustment Assistance	\$958,800,000,	\$1,818,400,000
UI/State Administration ³	\$2,782,000,000	\$3,195,645,000
Wagner-Peyser/State Admin.	\$703,576,000	\$703,376,000
WOTC	\$20,869,000	\$20,869,000
Foreign Labor Certification	\$15,129,000	\$15,129,000
Workforce Information, Nat'l Electronic Tools, & One-Stop System Building	\$51,720,000	\$47,220,000
Native American	\$52,758,000	\$52,758,000
Migrant & Seasonal Farmworker	\$82,620,000	\$84,620,000
Women in Apprenticeship & Nontraditional Occupations Act	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
YouthBuild	\$70,000,000	\$100,000,000
Ex-Offender/Second Chance Act ⁴	\$108,493,000	\$108,493,000
Careers in Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy	\$0	\$50,000,000
Career Pathways Innovation Fund ⁵	\$0	\$130,000,000
Workforce Data Quality Initiative	\$0	\$15,000,000
Title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965	\$571,925,000	\$615,425,000,
Pilots, Demonstrations & Research ⁶	\$48,781,000	\$66,990,000
Job Corps	\$1,683,938,000	\$1,705,320,000

FY 2010 Footnotes

¹ Notwithstanding the transfer limitation under section 133(b)(4) of the WIA, up to 30 percent of such funds may be transferred by a local board if approved by the Governor: *Provided further*, That a local board may award a contract to an institution of higher education or other eligible training provider if the local board determines that it would facilitate the training of multiple individuals in high demand occupations, if such contract does not limit customer choice;

² Funds provided to carry out section 132(a)(2)(A) of the WIA may be used to provide assistance to a State for State-wide or local use in order to address cases where there have been worker dislocations across multiple sectors or across multiple local areas and such workers remain dislocated; coordinate the State workforce development plan with emerging economic development needs; and train such eligible dislocated workers: *Provided further*, That funds provided to carry out section 171(d) of the WIA may be used for demonstration projects that provide assistance to new entrants in the workforce and incumbent workers;

³ Includes \$10,000,000 to conduct in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments and unemployment insurance improper payment reviews

⁴ Not less than \$34,000,000 shall be available for adult ex-offender activities, of which \$15,000,000 shall be for competitive grants to provide Transitional Job activities for adult ex-offenders;

⁵ Not less than \$65,000,000 shall be dedicated to activities that prepare workers for careers in the health care sector, and which shall not be subject to the requirements of section 171(b)(2)(B) or 171(c)(4)(D);

⁶ \$35,000,000 shall be for Transitional Jobs activities, \$5,500,000 shall be for competitive grants to address the employment and training needs of young parents.

Federal Minimum Wage Increase Takes Effect Today

The federal minimum wage will increase to \$7.25 on Friday, July 24. The increase is the last of three provided by the enactment of the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007, which amended the FLSA to increase the federal minimum wage in three steps: to \$5.85 per hour effective July 24, 2007; to \$6.55 per hour effective July 24, 2008; and now to \$7.25 per hour effective July 24, 2009. The latest change will directly benefit workers in 30 states (Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming) where the state minimum wage is currently at or below the federal minimum wage, or there is no state minimum wage. It will also benefit workers in the District of Columbia, where the minimum wage is required to be \$1 more than the federal minimum wage.

News from the States

New Hampshire Outlines Ways to Retain its Young Workforce***

New Hampshire Governor Jon Lynch, in conjunction with the Young Workers Taskforce, has released a [report](#) identifying ways in which New Hampshire can work to retain its young workforce. The report finds that the number of young adults in New Hampshire is growing and offers 17 ways the state can become a stronger magnet for this population. Most of the recommendations target individuals in their 20s, and include such ideas as increasing internship and apprenticeship opportunities, boosting internet access in certain parts of the state and offering tuition reimbursement programs. Other recommendations target “older” young people and include improving child care options and other family friendly practices.

The Young Workers Taskforce also launched the “Stay Work Play” Web site, which highlights recommendations from the report and details the state’s work toward implementing them. The Web site can be accessed at: www.stayworkplay.org.

News from NGA

Incoming NGA Chair Unveils New Initiative

Vermont Governor Jim Douglas officially became chair of the National Governors Association during the closing plenary session of the NGA’s Annual Meeting on Monday. West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin was named NGA Vice Chair.

In his first act as NGA Chair, Governor Douglas announced his chair's initiative titled [Rx for Health Reform: Affordable, Accessible, Accountable](#). The initiative focuses on the critical need for health reform to reduce health care costs, ensure Americans get the highest quality of care and provide coverage for those who lack health insurance.

A discussion, titled "Accelerating Education and Training Opportunities for a New Economy," occurred during the Education/Early Childhood and Workforce committee meeting. Governors and panelists explored transformations to education and training as well as career pathways strategies governors can use to open workforce education and training opportunities for everyone. The session included committee members, as well as Jane Oates, Assistant Secretary, Employment & Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, and Dr. Nan Poppe, Campus President, Portland Community College. To view a video of the session, click [here](#).

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***Excerpt from NGA's "This Just In"*

****Excerpt from the NGA Center's "Front and Center"*

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